Numb. 236

The TATLER.

By *Iſaac Bickerſtaff* Eſq;

Neſcio qua natale Solum Dulcedine Mentem
Tangit, & immemorem non ſinit eſſe ſui. Ovid.

From *Tueſday October* 10. to *Thurſday October* 12. 1710.

From my own Apartment, October 11.

I FIND in the Regiſters of my Family, that the Branch of the *Bickerſtaffs* from which I am deſcended came originally out of *Ireland*. This has given me a kind of natural Affection for that Country. It is therefore with Pleaſure that I ſee not only ſome of the greateſt Warriors, but alſo of the greateſt Wits, to be Natives of that Kingdom. The Gentleman who writes the following Letter is one of theſe laſt. The Matter of Fact contained in it is literally true, though the diverting Manner in which it is told may give it the Colour of a Fable.

To Iſaac Bickerſtaff *Eſq; at his Houſe in* Great Britain.

SIR, *DUBLIN.*

FInding by ſeveral Paſſages of your *Tatlers*, that you are a Perſon curious in Natural Knowledge, I thought it would not be unacceptable to you to give you the following Hiſtory of the Migration of Frogs into this Country. There is an ancient Tradition among the wild Philoſophers of the Kingdom, That this whole Iſland was once as much infeſted by Frogs, as that wherein *Whittington* made his Fortune was by Mice; inſomuch that it is ſaid, *Mackdonald* the Firſt could no more ſleep by reaſon of theſe *Dutch* Nightingales (as they are called at *Paris*) than *Pharaoh* could when they croaked in his Bed-Chamber. It was in the Reign of this great Monarch that St. *Patrick* arrived in *Ireland*, being as famous for deſtroying Vermin as any Rat-catcher of our Times. If we may believe the Tradition, he killed more in one Day than a Flock of Storks could have done in a Twelvemonth. From that Time for about Five Hundred Years there was not a Frog to be heard in *Ireland*, notwithſtanding the Bogs ſtill remained, which in former Ages had been ſo plentifully ſtocked with thoſe Inhabitants.

When the Arts began to flouriſh in the Reign of King *Charles* the Second, and that great Monarch had placed himſelf at the Head of the Royal Society, to lead them forward into the Diſcoveries of Nature, it is ſaid, that ſeveral Propoſals were laid before his Majeſty for the importing of Frogs into *Ireland*. In order to it, a Virtuoſo of known Abilities was unanimouſly elected by the Society, and intruſted with the whole Management of that Affair. For this End he took along with him a ſound, able-bodied Frog, of a ſtrong, hale Conſtitution, that had given Proofs of his Vigour by ſeveral Leaps which he made before that learned Body. They took Ship, and ſailed together till they came within Sight of the Hill of *Howth*, before the Frog diſcovered any Symptoms of being indiſpoſed by his Voyage: But as the Wind chopped about, and began to blow from the *Iriſh* Coaſt, he grew Sea-ſick, or rather Land-ſick; for his learned Companion aſcribed it to the Particles of the Soil, with which the Wind was impregnated. He was confirmed in his Conjecture, when, upon the Wind's turning about, his Fellow-Traveller ſenſibly recovered, and continued in good Health till his Arrival upon the Shore, where he ſuddenly relapſed, and expired upon a *Rings-End* Car in his Way to *Dublin*. The ſame Experiment was repeated ſeveral Times in that Reign, but to no Purpoſe. A Frog was never known to take Three Leaps upon *Iriſh* Turf before he ſtretched himſelf out and died.

Whether it were that the Philoſophers on this Side the Water deſpaired of ſtocking the Iſland with this uſeful Animal, or whether in the following Reign it was not thought proper to undo the Miracle of a Popiſh Saint, I do not hear of any further Progreſs made in this Affair till about Two Years after the Battle of the *Boyne*.

It was then that an ingenious Phyſician, to the Honour as well as Improvement of his native Country, performed what the *Engliſh* had been ſo long attempting in vain. This learned Man, with the Hazard of his Life, made a Voyage to *Liverpool*, where he filled ſeveral Barrels with the choiceſt Spawn of Frogs that could be found in thoſe Parts. This Cargo he brought over very carefully, and afterwards diſpoſed of it in ſeveral warm Beds that he thought moſt capable of bringing it to Life. The Doctor was a very ingenious Phyſician, and a very good Proteſtant; for which Reaſon, to ſhow his

Zeal

Zeal againſt Popery, he placed ſome of the moſt promiſing Spawn in the very Fountain that is dedicated to the Saint, and known by the Name of *St. Patrick's Well*, where theſe Animals had the Impudence to make their firſt Appearance. They have ſince that Time very much encreaſed and multiplied in all the Neighbourhood of this City. We have here ſome curious Enquirers into Natural Hiſtory, who obſerve their Motions, with a Deſign to compute in how many Years they will be able to hop from *Dublin* to *Wexford*; tho', as I am informed, not one of them has yet paſſed the Mountains of *Wicklow*.

I am further informed, that ſeveral Graſiers of the County of *Cork* have entered into a Project of planting a Colony in thoſe Parts, at the Inſtance of the *French* Proteſtants: And I know not but the ſame Deſign may be on Foot in other Parts of the Kingdom, if the Wiſdom of the *Britiſh* Nation do not think fit to prohibit the further Importation of *Engliſh* Frogs. I am,

SIR,

Your moſt humble Servant,

T. B.

There is no Study more becoming a rational Creature than that of Natural Philoſophy; but as ſeveral of our Modern Virtuoſo's manage it, their Speculations do not ſo much tend to open and enlarge the Mind, as to contract and fix it upon Trifles.

This in *England* is in a great Meaſure owing to the worthy Elections that are ſo frequently made in our Royal Society. They ſeem to be in a Confederacy againſt Men of polite Genius, noble Thought, and diffuſive Learning, and chuſe into their Aſſemblies ſuch as have no Pretence to Wiſdom, but Want of Wit; or to natural Knowledge, but Ignorance of every Thing elſe. I have made Obſervations in this Matter ſo long, that when I meet with a young Fellow that is an humble Admirer of the Sciences, but more dull than the reſt of the Company, I conclude him to be a Fellow of the Royal Society.

Adverſiſements.

ALL Sorts of fine Silks and Mercery Goods for Blank Lottery Tickets, at 7 l. 10 s. a Ticket, and ſold as cheap as for Specie, at the Eagle and Child on Ludgate Hill

AT the *Great Wheat-Sheaf painted upon a Copper Plate*, next the Bell-Savage-Inn upon Ludgate-hill, are ſold all Sorts of rich Foreign Silk, with Gold and Silver Brocades: Likewiſe plain and flower'd Velvets for Gowns and Petticoats, and Coach Linings; with all Sorts of Silk Morning-Gowns, for Blank Lottery Tickets, at 7 l. 11 s. per Ticket, and the aboveſaid Goods as cheap as for Specie.

BLank Lottery Tickets will be taken at 7 l. 12 s. for all Sorts of fine Silks, Silk Morning-Gowns, &c. as cheap as for Ready Money, at the Star upon Ludgate-hill, the Corner of the Old-Baily, next Ludgate.

Drinking-Glaſſes, Decanters, Cruets, &c.

THere having of late been many Advertiſements publiſhed, of Flint-Glaſs ſold at ſome particular Places at 12 d. per Pound; This is to give Notice, That 12 d. per Pound is the Current Price the Shopkeepers of London and Weſtminſter do ſell at. And all Gentlemen and others may, at any of the ſaid Shops, have any Sort of Flint-Glaſſes, (and Glaſſes made to Pattern) at 12 d. per Pound.

* * The New Pſalm Book; containing proper Tunes, entirely new, to all the different Meaſures of the Pſalms in the Old, or any of the New Verſion; with Variety of Tunes for the moſt common Meaſure, and may be ſung in 2, 3, or 4 Parts, with a figured Baſs for the Organ: Alſo ſome ſhort Anthems in 4 Parts, at the End of the Book; with a Table, ſhewing how to apply each Tune to its Proper Pſalm. Very proper to be uſed in all Pariſh Churches. By John Biſhop, Organiſt of the Colledge at Winton. Sold by J. Walſh, Servant in Ordinary to Her Majeſty, and P. Randall, at the Harp and Hautboy in Katherine-ſtreet in the Strand; and J. Hare at the Viol and Flute in Cornhil, near the Royal Exchange. Pr. 1 s. 6 d.

MOrning-Gowns for Men and Women, of Silk, Stuffs, and Callicoe's (being the Goods of Perſons that failed) which were to be diſpoſed of at the Olive-Tree and Still, are now to be ſold at the Golden Sugar-Loaf up one Pair of Stairs, over-againſt the Horſe at Charing-Croſs; with a freſh Parcel as very low Rates, the Price being ſet on each Gown.

The moſt valuable Parcel of Goods ever yet expoſed to Sale, to be ſeen at the Naked Boy in Henrietta-ſtreet, Covent-Garden.

THis is to give Notice, That Mrs. Symonds's Sale of a Japan'd Cabinet, and weighty Plate, being near full (in which, beſides the Number of large Prizes, there are but 11 Blanks a Prize) will be drawn within a Fortnight. Tickets are to be had at Mr. Wyvill's, a Silkman, at the Blue Boar near the Conduit in Cheapſide; Mr. Lillie's, Perfumer, the Corner of Beauford-Buildings; Mrs. Page's, a Milliner, in King-ſtreet, Weſtminſter; at Mr. Clark's China-ſhop in King-ſtreet, Guildhall; Mrs. Symonds's in Exeter-Exchange-court in the Strand; Mr. Skinman's, Diſtiller, in St. James's Market; and at the Naked Boy in Henrietta-ſtreet, Covent-Garden, at 5 s. per Ticket.

THIS is to give Notice, That Mr. Peters's Sale of Houſes in Gloceſter-ſtreet, of 1000 l. for Half a Crown, being near full, will be drawn on Monday the 23d Inſtant without fail. Tickets are to be had at Mr. Halley's, Ironmonger, in Wood-ſtreet; Mr. Farran's, Goldſmith, at the Blue Periwig in Ruſſel-ſtreet, Covent-Garden; Mr. Chantrill, Shoemaker, at the Corner of Tooley-ſtreet; Mr. Lillie's, Perfumer, at the Corner of Beauford-Buildings; at Rice's Coffee-houſe in the Haymarket; Mr. Smith's at the Black Spread Eagle in Leaden-hall Market; Mr. Wind's, Cheeſemonger, near Stocks-Market; Mr. Rutter's in St. John's-ſtreet; at the Two Houſes in Gloceſter-ſtreet; and all the other Places mentioned in the Propoſals.

NOtice is hereby given, That Mrs. Ogle's Catalogue of Plate, 20 l. for 6 d. being very near full, will be drawn on the 25th Inſtant. There being ſome Tickets ſtill to be diſpoſed of, all Perſons that have a Mind to be Adventurers are deſired to take them out ſpeedily, at Mrs. Ogle's againſt Mountague-houſe; at Mr. Sedgwick's, Hair-Cutter, in the Strand; at Mr. Green's, a Hatter, at the Catherine-Wheel Inn in the Borough of Southwark; at Joe's Coffee-houſe, Harton-Garden; at Mr. Ralfe's at the Black-Lion in Shoemakers-Row near Aldgate; and at Mrs. Carter's, a Butterwoman, in Clare-Market by Clement's-Inn.

THE Twelvepenny Sale of Plate and other Things of Value, that is to be ſeen at the Toyſhop in Silver-ſtreet by Golden Square, is to be drawn on Monday Sevennight, being the 23d Inſtant, at the Fountain Tavern by the Temple-gate. There being ſome Tickets to diſpoſe of, may be had there, or at the Place aforeſaid; there being but 9 blanks to a Prize.

THis is to give Notice, That the Houſe ſtanding in Smithfield, at the upper End of Cow-lane, of 30 l. per Ann. for half a Crown, being a Free-hold Eſtate for ever, the Ground-Rent clear, with that fine Collection of Plate and Jewels, having met with very great Encouragement, is to be drawn the 1ſt of November. The remaining Tickets are to be had at Mr. Amſon's, Goldſmith, near Salisbury-Court, Fleet-ſtreet; at Mrs. Deard's, Toy-ſhop, under St. Dunſtan's Church; Mr. Baker, at the Black Boy, Pater-noſter-Row; at Nixon's Coffee-houſe in Ferter-lane-End, Fleet-ſtreet; Mr. Salter's, Grocer, at the Corner of Great-Queen-ſtreet, Drury-lane; Mr. Quarrenton's, Tobacconiſt, at the Angel and Crown on the Paved-ſtones, Smithfield; Mrs. Water's, againſt the Golden Horſe in Theobalu's-row; Mr. Lewis's, Bookbinder, in Flower-de-Luce-court, Fleet-ſtreet; Mr. Guy's under Furnival's-Inn; Mrs. Tillman's, Red-Lion-ſtreet, Milliner; Mr. Hales's at the Butchers Arms in Cow-lane; Mr. Pator's Coffee-houſe, St. James's Gate; and at the Houſe abovementioned. To be drawn as mentioned in the printed Propoſals.

ONE Hundred Pounds for Half a Crown: Or, Propoſals for ſeveral Prizes, by Mr. William Morris; a fine Diamond Croſs ſet tranſparent with a Button all Brilliants, Plate, Atlaſſes on Silk, ſix Silk Night-Gowns, and ſeveral other valuable Things. It's propoſed to deliver out by Subſcription Two Thouſand Five Hundred Tickets, in which there are 177 Prizes, the higheſt 100 l. the loweſt 11 s. and 13 Blanks to a Prize. Tickets to be had at Mrs. Pinkney's, a Milliner, in Tavi-ſtock-ſtreet, next to the Cheeſemonger's in Southampton-ſtreet in Bedford-Buildings; Mr. Andrews's, Glover, at the Ball and Glove in Charles-court in the Strand, near York-Buildings; Mr. Green's in Cary-lane, near Goldſmiths-hall; Mr. Barnard's, Gloveſeller, at Mr. Tompion's, the Corner of Water-lane, Fleet-ſtreet; Mr. Stoke's, Bookſeller, at the Key and Bible againſt the Mews-gate, Charing-Croſs. Note, The Goods are to be ſeen at Mr. Andrews's aforeſaid, and will certainly be drawn on Tueſday Octob. 17. out of two Wheels by two Pariſh Boys, at the Great Room in York-Buildings: And if not drawn, the Money to be returned.

I Anthony James, Shoemaker, in Shoemaker's-Row, Duke's-Place, near the Bakers-Arms, London, was afflicted with a violent Fit of the Cholick and Stone; but by the Bleſſing of God, and the Preparations of Mr. Moore, Apothecary, at the Peſtle and Morrar in Abchurch-lane, London, I have received a perfect Cure of my Cholick, and have had brought away an incredible Number of ſmall Stones and Gravel, with one large Stone: And in Gratuity to the ſaid Mr. Moore (although I paid him for his Medicines) I do acknowledge to the World the Truth of this wonderful Cure. Anthony James.

Sold by *John Morphew* near *Stationers-Hall*; where Advertiſements are taken in.